

“Stones of Remembrance”

Joshua 4

“¹Now when all the nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying, ²Take for yourselves twelve men from the people, one man from each tribe, ³and command them, saying, ‘Take up for yourselves twelve stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests’ feet are standing firm, and carry them over with you and lay them down in the lodging place where you will lodge tonight.’”

(Deuteronomy 10:9)

Command #1: God commanded Joshua to choose _____ men, _____ from each tribe.

Command #2: God commanded each man chosen to get a _____ from the middle of the Jordan and _____ it to Gilgal and _____ it down.

“⁴So Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the sons of Israel, one man from each tribe; ⁵and Joshua said to them, ‘Cross again to the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Israel.’”

Obedience #1 and #2: Joshua obeyed the _____ commands from the _____.

Some Commands from Jesus to Believers:

- 1) _____ one another!
(John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8)
- 2) _____ for your _____!
(Matthew 5:44-45)
- 3) Make _____! (Matthew 28:19-20)

“⁶Let this be a sign among you, so that when your children ask later, saying, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ ⁷then you shall say to them, ‘Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.’ So these stones shall become a memorial to the sons of Israel forever.”

The stones were going to be a _____, a _____, for the people of Israel.

“⁸Thus the sons of Israel did as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, just as the LORD spoke to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Israel; and they carried them over with them to the lodging place and put them down there.”

Obedience #3: The twelve men did _____ what the Lord told them through Joshua. (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)

⁹Then Joshua set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan at the place where the feet of the priests who carried the ark of the covenant were standing, and they are there to this day.”

Joshua set up 12 stones in the middle of the Jordan where the _____ of _____ was when the people crossed.

¹⁰For the priests who carried the ark were standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything was completed that the LORD had commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. And the people hurried and crossed; ¹¹and when all the people had finished crossing, the ark of the LORD and the priests crossed before the people.”

Obedience #4: The people of Israel did _____ that the _____ had commanded.

¹²The sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over in battle array before the sons of Israel, just as Moses had spoken to them; ¹³about 40,000 equipped for war, crossed for battle before the LORD to the desert plains of Jericho.”

Obedience #5: The two and half tribes from the east side of the Jordan were _____ to the promises they made.

¹⁴On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; so that they revered him, just as they had revered Moses all the days of his life.” (Joshua 3:7)

God’s _____ are always _____.

Some Promises from Jesus to Believers:

- 1) He promises _____. (Matthew 11:28-30)
- 2) He promises _____ life. (John 10:10)
- 3) He promises that He will come back to _____ us. (John 14:1-3)

¹⁵Now the LORD said to Joshua, ¹⁶Command the priests who carry the ark of the testimony that they come up from the Jordan.”

Command #3: The Lord commanded Joshua to tell the priests to start _____ out of the Jordan River.

¹⁷So Joshua commanded the priests, saying, ‘Come up from the Jordan.’”

Obedience #6: Joshua _____ what the Lord _____!

¹⁸It came about when the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD had come up from the middle of the Jordan, and the soles of the priests' feet were lifted up to the dry ground, that the waters of the Jordan returned to their place, and went over all its banks as before.”

Obedience #7: The priests _____ the Lord’s command through Joshua.

¹⁹Now the people came up from the Jordan on the tenth of the first month and camped at Gilgal on the eastern edge of Jericho. ²⁰Those twelve stones which they had taken from the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. ²¹He said to the sons of Israel, ‘When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, “What are these stones?” ²²then you shall inform your children, saying, “Israel crossed this Jordan on dry ground. ²³For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed, just as the LORD your God had done to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed; ²⁴that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, so that you may fear the LORD your God forever.”’”

Command #4: The people of Israel had to _____ their kids what the _____ had done for them.

Our Application: Tell our _____ and _____ in our sphere of influence what the Lord has done for us!